



TOWN OF BLADENSBURG NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018

WINTER QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



MAYOR KISHA JAMES

Dear Bladensburg Residents,

As your newly elected Mayor, I want to thank you for your continued support in these first few months of my administration. As we move into 2018, my focus for the Town will be on working with the staff and stakeholders to continue working to accomplish the strategies identified in the Town of Bladensburg's Strategic Plan, which was implemented in March 2017. Mainly, I'll be working with our team to:

- **Continue** marketing and preserving the Town's historic and cultural assets to attract visitors to Bladensburg.
- **Create** and host an annual signature event for the Town of Bladensburg in 2018.
- **Update** the Town Code to reflect the needs of the community.



- **Continue** improving community-based policing and outreach to establish and build relationships.

- **Assess** the need for traffic improvements, including traffic calming and safety alternatives for streets maintained by the Town.

- **Continue** working to develop a master plan for Bladensburg to guide development/redevelopment.

- **Work** with and encourage the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to identify ways to promote the Bladensburg Waterfront recreational opportunities and increase the number of visitors.

I look forward to working with the community and staff to achieve success for Bladensburg in these areas in the coming year.

God bless you and may God bless the Town of Bladensburg!

CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY



STARTING MARCH 2018

**TIMES & START DATE TBA
at Bladensburg Town Hall
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710**

This **FREE** training gives participants the opportunity to become familiar with the Town's Police Department and provides exposure to officer related training such as investigative procedures, crime scene investigations, less lethal weapons, judgment enhancement training, and much more.

To Register Contact: 301.927.8126 or
e-mail Lbrown@bladensburgmd.gov

2017 TOWN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As the Town Administrator for Bladensburg, I have the privilege of observing first-hand the dedication and commitment our Town staff has had in delivering superior services to our community. Looking back over 2017, I would like to highlight a few of the many accomplishments of this extraordinary team.

- 1. Redesigned and launched** the new website BladensburgMD.gov, designed to be interactive and easy to navigate, where residents, businesses and visitors can access up-to-date news, find information on services provided by the Town and learn about upcoming events, meetings, etc.
- 2. Mayor and Council** adopted a five-year Strategic Plan.
- 3.** Town staff, in collaboration with Council Member Walter Ficklin, coordinated a 'Bladensburg C.A.R.E.S about your future', promotional campaign to promote the newly adopted Strategic Plan.
- 4. Increased community outreach** meetings to engage and improve the communication between the Town and the Town of Bladensburg community.

5. Marketing launched a TEXT to Join campaign to increase the number of subscribers receiving the Town's Weekly E-Blast. In January 2017 the Town had 400 subscribers and ended 2017 with 1184 subscribers.

6. Newly Renovated Town Park – The renovation and update to the Town Park was completed and renamed the "David C. Harrington Community Park", in honor of former Mayor Harrington's contributions to the Town.

7. Tax Differential Increased – Mayor Walter James, the Town Administrator, and the Town Treasurer successfully presented the Town's case to the County Executive during his FY18 budget listening session requesting he reconsider increasing the tax differential to Municipalities who purchase their vehicles up front. We were able to successfully stress by purchasing vehicles upfront we are being good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars by reducing the debt our communities carry. This resulted in an estimated \$90,000 return to Town residents.

8. Code Enforcement - has proactively increased its education and information outreach to the community resulting in: 10.51% decrease in Calls for Service, 40.62% decrease in Graffiti complaints, 58.27% decrease in Animal Calls, 11.86% decrease in Sign complaints, 11.52% decrease in Trash complaints.

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WINTER CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

5 Tips on Avoiding Car Thefts & Break-ins:

Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you're away from it, even for "just a minute."

- 1 - DO NOT** leave valuables in view: (lap tops, cell phones, wallets, purses).
- 2 - DO NOT** leave doors unlocked.
- 3 - DO NOT** leave out items with personal information.
- 4 - DO NOT** move valuable items to the trunk while in public view.
- 5 - SLOW DOWN**, use common sense before you leave your car.

Not only do you risk having your vehicle stolen by leaving it running unattended, it is **against the law**. **Violators are subject to a \$70 fine and 1 point.**



10%
of stolen vehicles
are a result of
cars being left
unattended
with keys inside.

Pumping Gas

Make sure all car doors are locked when pumping gas, especially the doors on the opposite side of the car from where you are pumping gas. Thieves see this as a crime of opportunity. While you are pumping gas a thief will quickly remove your valuables.

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG CALL - A - BUS

CURB TO CURB TRANSPORTATION
for seniors and residents with disabilities

WHO DO I CALL?
By calling 301-277-4920 to schedule an appointment

WHERE CAN WE GO?
Medical appointments, grocery stores, senior centers & more, within six miles of the Town
FARES ARE \$1 EACH WAY

WHEN CAN I GO?
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
BY RESERVATION ONLY

FOLLOW US ON:

facebook.com/bladensburgmd
twitter.com/bladensburgmd
instagram.com/bladensburgmd

TREASURER'S CORNER

Revenues – Through December we received almost two thirds of the revenues we budgeted for the year. This is ahead of budget but we normally receive most of our revenues in the first part of the year and the expenses are incurred throughout the year.

Expenditures – The Town has expended half of the budgeted expenditures through December. The table summarized below shows each of the Town's major departments with the expense levels as compared to the full year budget.

Upcoming – FY19 Budget
- We will begin our FY19 Budget process in March and we hope to receive valuable input and feedback from our residents and business owners as we go through this process.

Please join our email list and look for announcements for dates and times of the Mayor and Council Budget Worksessions and Community Budget meetings.

TOWN EVENTS & MEETINGS

CELEBRATING AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Friday, February 23, 2018

5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

at Bladensburg Town Hall
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

COFFEE WITH A COP

Thursday, February 15, 2018

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

at La Chiquita Restaurant
4821 Annapolis Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

MAYOR & COUNCIL WORKSESSION

Monday, March 12, 2018

5:30 PM

at Bladensburg Town Hall

MAYOR & COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 12, 2018

7:00 PM

at Bladensburg Town Hall

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 31, 2018

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

at David Harrington Park
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY

March 2018

at Bladensburg Town Hall

2017 TOWN ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONTINUED

9. Finance - successfully completed the FY17 Budget Audit; received better than expected revenues due to increased real estate and business property assessments; received additional tax revenues due from the State for prior years; and ended the fiscal year with a \$434,000 increase to our fund balance.

10. Police - successfully increased their community engagement outreach and built relationships with the community. Their outreach included coordinating and hosting the Bike Rodeo, Citizen's Police Academy, Movie in the Park, Coffee with a Cop, Shop with a Cop, Fall Fright Frenzy Halloween, and the Annual "National Night Out".

11. Public Works - installed Pet Waste Stations – As part of the County's Department of Environment's Pet Waste Management initiative, eight (8) new pet waste stations have been installed in the Town.

12. Lt. Flynn and Pat McAuley, the Town Clerk, applied for and were awarded \$1,824,356 in grant funding (a \$509,254 increase in grant funds received from 2016) for Capital Improvement projects and grants to assist Town residents with upgrading their homes to be more energy efficient.



Financial Summary	6 Months Ending December	FY18 Full Year Budget	Variance
Revenues	4,091,552	6,471,367	63%
Expenditures			
Mayor & Council	98,280	205,745	48%
Town Adminis.	128,401	319,553	40%
Town Clerk	121,910	234,693	52%
Finance	180,218	335,370	54%
Public Safety	1,703,239	3,446,900	49%
Public Works	334,828	1,007,000	33%
Grants	736,944	922,106	80%
Total Expenses	3,303,820	6,471,367	51%
Surplus/Deficit	787,832		

TRASH SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

HOUSEHOLD TRASH/BUILDING MATERIAL
containers must be curbside at 6:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

YARD WASTE/TREES/RECYCLING
NO Plastic Bags Allowed

FRIDAY

HOUSEHOLD TRASH

containers must be curbside at 6:00 a.m.

BULK TRASH

call 301-773-2069 by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday

Town of Bladensburg provides Trash Containers for NEW Residents ONLY.
Call Town Public Works at (301) 927-1452 or e-mail phall@bladensburgmd.gov



PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BLADENSBURG,
MARYLAND
PERMIT # 2132

BLADENSBURG TOWN OFFICE

4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, Maryland 20710

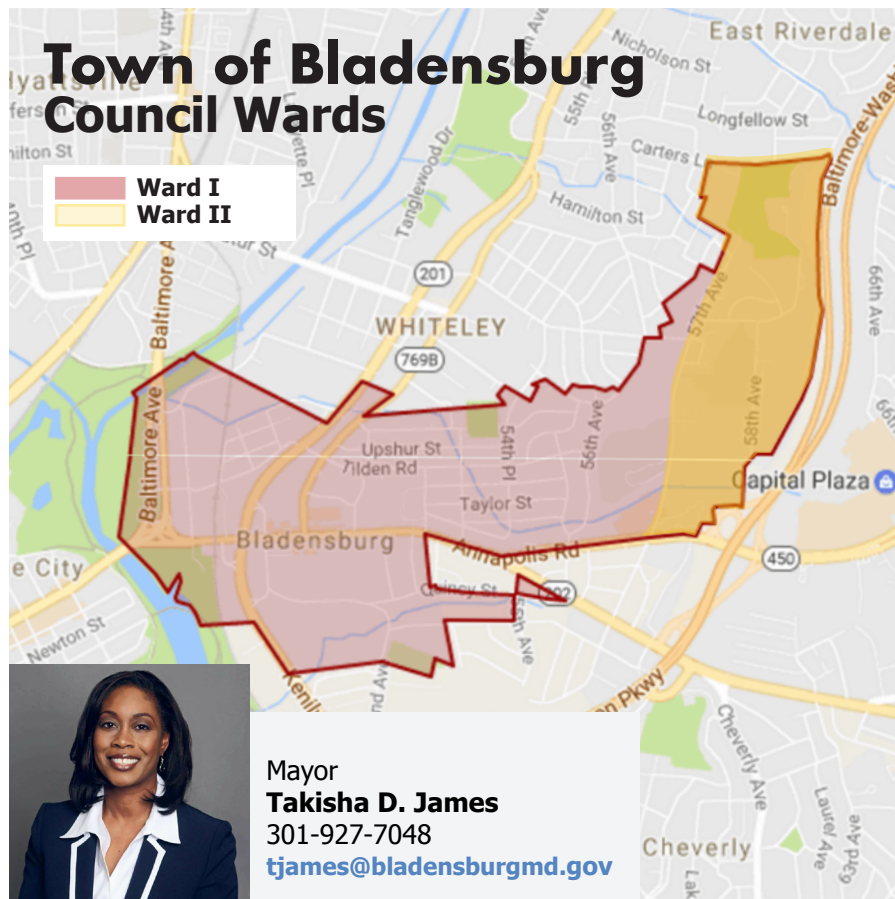
Phone Number: 301-927-7048

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9AM - 5PM

www.BladensburgMD.gov

www.facebook.com/bladensburgmd

@BladensburgMD



WARD I



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